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August 2, 1901

1772

[Inclosure.]

Report of treatment of passengers' baggage for the week ended July 6, 1901.—Port of Santiago de Cuba.

Date.	Name of vessel.	Disinfected and passed.						Inspected and passed.					
		Formaldehyd gas.			Steam.								
		Boxes.	Bundles.	Trunks.	Valises.	Boxes.	Bundles.	Trunks.	Valises.	Baskets.	Boxes.	Bundles.	Trunks.	Valises.
June 30.	Steamship Mortera (baggage arrived from Havana).....												
July 6	Steamship Saratoga (baggage destined for United States).....	1	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	10	6	20	28
	Total.....	1	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	10	8	23	29

Inspection of immigrants at Santiago for the week ended July 6, 1901.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, July 6, 1901.

SIR: I herewith submit report of alien steerage passengers at this port during the week ended July 6, 1901: July 2, provisional flag steamship *Tomas Brooks*, from Kingston, Jamaica, with 21 immigrants.

Respectfully,

R. H. VON EZDORF,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of immigrants at Manzanillo during the week ended July 6, 1901.

MANZANILLO, CUBA, July 6, 1901.

SIR: I herewith submit report of alien steerage passengers at this port during the week ended July 6, 1901: July 4, Norwegian steamship *Fane*, from Puerto Cabello, with three immigrants.

Respectfully,

R. DE SOCARRAS,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

ENGLAND.

*Report from London—Plague in Cape Colony, in Egypt, and on the steamship *Laos* between Port Said and Marseilles.*

LONDON, ENGLAND, July 13, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the health of London and the United Kingdom remains satisfactory. The death rate in London further rose for the week ended July 6 to 14.4 per 1,000, but there were no deaths for any quarantinable disease. Two cases of smallpox were reported during the week. During the same period there was 1 death from smallpox in Glasgow.

The plague continues to subside in Cape Town, only a few cases having been reported in the past week. Cases, however, continue to occur at Port Elizabeth, and the number of points of infection is increasing. However, it is hoped that the last of the plague at the cape is near at hand.

In Egypt for the week ended June 30, there were 9 cases of plague reported—8 in Zagazig, with 3 deaths, and 1 in Alexandria. It is reported that there have been 3 cases of plague in Constantinople, 1 on July 2 and 2 on July 4.

The steamship *Laos*, which arrived at Marseilles at the beginning of the week, was quarantined because of plague. An Arab stoker was landed at Port Said suffering from the disease, and between there and Marseilles 15 fresh cases occurred among the stokers. No cases have been reported among the passengers, and they are being detained in quarantine.

Respectfully,

A. R. THOMAS,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Plague.

[Extract from an address delivered by Prof. Robert Koch before the British tuberculosis congress, London, July 23, 1901.]

* * * “The pestilence which is at this moment in the foreground of interest, the bubonic plague, may be instructive to us in several respects.

“People used to act upon the conviction that a plague patient was in the highest degree a center of infection, and that the disease was transmitted only by plague patients and their belongings. Even the most recent international agreements are based on this conviction. Although, as compared with formerly, we now have the great advantage that we can, with the aid of the microscope and of experiments on animals, recognize every case of plague with absolute certainty, and although the prescribed inspection of ships, quarantine, the isolation of patients, the disinfection of infected dwellings and ships, are carried out with the utmost care, the plague has, nevertheless, been transmitted everywhere, and has in not a few places assumed grave dimensions. Why this has happened we know very well, owing to the experience quite recently gained as to the manner in which the plague is transmitted. It has been discovered that only those plague patients that suffer from plague-pneumonia—a condition which is fortunately infrequent—are centers of infection, and that the real transmitters of the plague are the rats. There is no longer any doubt that, in by far the majority of cases in which the plague has been transmitted by ocean traffic, the transmission took place by means of plague among the ship rats. It has also been found that wherever the rats were intentionally or unintentionally exterminated the plague rapidly disappeared; whereas at other places, where too little attention had been paid to the rat plague, the pestilence continued.” * * *

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin—Plague as reported from Egypt, India, and Africa.

BERLIN, GERMANY, July 13, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following information, obtained from the Imperial health office at Berlin:

Plague.

TURKEY.—On July 2 a case of plague was ascertained at Stambul. Furthermore, on July 5, 2 more cases were recorded in the Italian hospital and the Kaszimpascha quarter.

EGYPT.—From June 14 to June 21 18 fresh plague cases and 6 deaths